RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: No. As a matter of fact, there are only five such prisoners. Mr. George was detained but subsequently he was convicted by court of law. So he is not a detenue. Likewise Mr. K. Sanku Pillai was detained but he has been convicted for specific offences. So also, and shall I say, comrade, Mr. Sugathan who has been detained has now been prosecuted for sedition. Thus only seven persons are remaining of whom Mr. Krishna Pillai and Mr Natarajan have been detained as a matter of mutual arrangement between our Government and the Madras Government. They were behaving very badly in British India. We are asked to detain them. So, in fact we have detained only five.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know whether some police constables were suspended for allowing strangers to interview a detenue named Srikantan Nair?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Yes, Sir.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know what were the charges against those police constables?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: They surreptitiously allowed some people to have conversation with the detenue against the orders of Government.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know why they are not given a chance to prove their innocence before a judicial tribunal?

PRESIDENT: The Defence of Travancore Rules provide that in certain cases where the conditions demand it, Government can keep people under detention without prosecuting them. Those people have been so detained.

Duty on kerosene oil.

393. ***MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state the quantity of kerosene oil manufactured and the excise duty realised in respect of the same in Travancore since the Kerosene Excise Duty Bill came into force?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: The quantity of kerosene oil issued from the manufactories in the State from 27-8-1116 (the date on which the Travancore (Kerosene) Excise Duty Act came into force) to 20-11-1116 is 42,364 gallons. The Excise Duty realised thereon amounts to Bh. Rs. 7,446-12-10.

Improper methods of fishing.

394. ***MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU:** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they ever received complaints from the agriculturists of Shertala taluk regarding the inconvenience and loss they are put to by the owners of paddy fields along the coast of the Vembanad lake from Thannirmukkam to Aroor, putting into use their fields for attracting and abetting fish in poramboke waters by filling and retaining salt water in the fields for long periods ;

(*b*) if so, what action they have taken to redress the grievances of agriculturists ;

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[Mr. Codiveetil C. Raman kunju.]

(*c*) the area and owners thereof of paddy fields along the coast of Vembanad lake put into use for attracting and abetting fish in poramboke waters:

(*d*) the extent of loss sustained to paddy cultivators, registry holders of stake nets and owners of other implements and the fisheries in general by the above practice;

(*e*) whether they have received resolutions passed at the conference of the co-operative societies, Shertala, requesting Government to take immediate steps to prevent the owners of paddy fields along the coast of Vembanad lake in Shertala taluk from using their fields for attracting and catching fish in poramboke waters by continuously filling with salt water and draining, causing heavy damages and destruction to the adjoining fields and garden lands; and

(*f*) if so, what action they have taken to relieve the distress of the cultivators and discourage the practice ?

DR. K. L. MOUDGILL: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

(*c*) The area is approximately 18,000 acres. The names of the owners are not available.

(*d*) The information asked for is not available.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (*e*).

Representations of Vala Community.

395. ❋**MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have ever received representations and deputations from associations and individuals of Vala community regarding the handicap to their industry by the action of the influential owners of paddy fields along the coast of Vembanad lake introducing and working a new method of attracting the fish in poramboke waters into their fields and catching wholesale; and

(*b*) if so, what action they have taken to relieve the distress of the fisherfolk ?

DR. K. L. MOUDGILL: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

Use of Lights for fishing purposes.

396. ❋**MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU:** Will the Government be pleased to state the number of families of Valas affected by the luring with brilliant lights fish in poramboke waters by the owners of paddy fields along the coast of the Vembanad lake from Thannirmukkam to Aroor ?

DR. K. L. MOUDGILL: The information asked for is not available.

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